

City of Flagstaff Housing Authority Newsletter

June 2020

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Contact Us

CFHA Maintenance (928) 213-2731

East Flagstaff Housing

Jayne Wittman, Housing Spec.
Emailto:Jayne-wittman@flagstaffaz.gov

Phone: (928) 213-2735 Fax: (928) 526-3734

Hours: M-F from 8am - 5pm

Flagstaff Housing West

Patricia Sauers, Housing Spec. Email: psauers@flagstaffaz.gov

Phone: (928) 779-1887 Fax: (928) 779-5801

Hours: M-F from 8am - 5pm (closed 12pm - 1pm)

Clark Homes

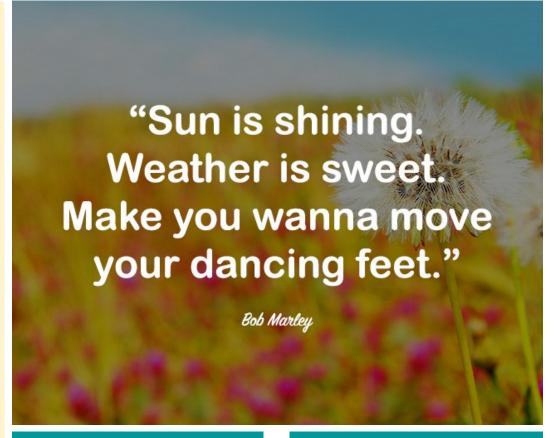
Amanda Thomas, Housing Spec. <u>Email</u>: athomas@flagstaffaz.gov

Phone: (928) 779-1247 Fax: (928) 779-2175

Hours: M-Th from 8am - 6pm

(closed 12pm - 1pm) & Fri 8am - 12pm

General Phone: (928) 213-2730



Apply for the Board!

Looking to provide your two cents to the Flagstaff Housing Authority? How about build your resume and get community service hours? Apply for our Board of Commissioners!

The Board of Commissioners is responsible for setting policy and direction for the CFHA. The Board meets once per month on the third Thursday of the month at 10:00 am. Meetings are currently online, they will return to City Hall in the future.

Learn more at <u>flagstaff.az.gov/994/</u> <u>Boards-Commissions</u>.

Apply with the online form at flagstaff.az.gov/1883/Application.

APS Financial Support

There are options if you need help with your energy bill:

Energy Support Program allows qualified customers to receive 25% off their bill.

The Medical Program allows some with medical needs to receive a total of 35% off their monthly bill.

Crisis Bill Assistance can provide up to \$800/year in APS bill support.

Project SHARE provides temporary assistance through the Salvation Army.

For qualifications, go to <u>aps.com/</u> <u>assistance</u> or call <u>(800)</u> <u>253-9405</u>.

CARES Act Financial Relief & CFHA Protocol During COVID-19 Outbreak

Most of you have heard about the one-time payment of up to \$1,200 for a single person, \$2,400 for a couple, with an additional \$500 per dependent child. These payments have started depositing into bank accounts, although currently those whose sole income is Social Security or SSI are still waiting. The payment is much quicker if the IRS has your banking information because you filed a return and received a refund through direct deposit. Here are some things to think about:

If you did not file a tax return but receive Social Security, SSI or Railroad Retirement the IRS is working with these agencies to obtain information to make the payment.

If you received a paper refund check in the mail or owed you can go to the website below to enter your banking info and receive the check more quickly.

If you received a refund loan from a tax preparation business rather than from the IRS, the banking info on the return may be that of the business, not yours. Check with your tax preparer or with the IRS at the website below to determine if you need to act.

If you received your refund on a cash card and no longer have the card go to the website below to update your information.

If you did not file a tax return and are not receiving benefits you must give your information to the IRS at the website below or you will not receive a payment.

These one-time payments will not affect rent and do not need to be reported. To check on your payment status or for more info, go to <u>des.az.gov/pua</u>.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) has made loans available for paycheck protection. If your employer receives an SBA loan and you are receiving a paycheck based on this, the paycheck is countable income. You must report this if your rent has been adjusted due to wage reduction or loss. If your rent has not been adjusted but pay under this program is less than you were making, you may report the decrease to request a rent adjustment.

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance will provide up to 39 weeks of income replacement of up to \$600 per week over the state maximum unemployment benefit (currently \$240 per week). This benefit may be available to workers who would not traditionally be eligible for unemployment such as self-employed or contract workers, or workers with insufficient current

work quarters to qualify. If you have been working but are unable to receive traditional unemployment you may apply for this program at des.az.gov/pua and click on "File a PUA Claim." If you have already applied for or are receiving unemployment through DES you will receive these benefits automatically when you are approved. Go to des.az.gov for more.

You may currently apply for unemployment at azdui.com if you are not working or your hours have been reduced. If you begin to receive benefits or they increase, report this to your case worker like any other income change by email, change report, or other written statement through the drop slot at the office where you live. There are blank change reports in an envelope outside the door at all offices. Changes may not be reported by telephone. Due to high volume, DES is currently experiencing delays in processing new claims, so we do not begin to count the income until it is actually received. DES will not notify you when you start receiving benefits, so check your card balance weekly if you have applied.

CFHA Information

Front Lobbies of all offices are currently closed. We cannot permit anyone in the office who does not have a scheduled appointment. However, staff are still in the office to serve residents. If you need to speak to your specialist or other staff, please call.

We are currently working on a plan that will bring us back to full operation. The City has provided a four step process that will comply with CDC guidelines. We hope to see all of you soon face-to-face.

Maintenance Work Orders

Please continue to call in all work orders to **213-2731**. However, only Health & Safety Maintenance Work Orders will be completed at this time. These work orders will be completed within 24 hours.

When you leave a message for a work order it is entered into our computer system so we have a record. It is not necessary to call more than once. Be sure to include a call back number in your message.

Please respect the health of our Maintenance professionals as they respect yours. When they are in your home please make sure that nobody is in the same room while they are working. If Maintenance staff is unsure of conditions in the home they may check with Management for their own safety.



CARES Act & CFHA Protocol, continued from page 2

All other work orders will be completed once we can ensure that staff and residents will be at minimal health risk.

The dump is not currently allowing anyone to enter, so we are unable to pick up items from the curb. In order to keep our developments looking neat please place bulky items on the curb the day before the bulky item pickup noted on the calendar. For your own safety please do not disturb items left at the curb nor those in dumpsters.

Change Reporting

We will be processing rent reductions with an expedited process to insure that rents remain appropriate and affordable. When reporting your change, please provide sufficient information for your Specialist to be able to determine your income. For example, do not report your hours have been reduced, report you are now working 16 hours a week at \$14 per hour. We are currently waiving face-to-face appointments, but it is very important that you return all documents with proper signatures to the office. When we have received your signed documents we will sign and return copies to you through the mail.

Clark Homes Neighborhood Network and the SHAC are currently closed and activities suspended.

Annual Recertifications

Annual recertifications will be performed by Mail.

The Flagstaff Police Department is again running background checks. See opposite column for more information under "Wise Words." If you are unable to provide certain verifications (other than income) with your recertification packet please include a note which indicates this. For example, "I am unable to get bank statements because bank is closed and I have no internet access." When we receive your packet with sufficient information to determine rent, a Family Worksheet and Lease Addendum will be sent for your signature. Please return the signed paperwork promptly. When received your Specialist will sign the paperwork and send you a copy. An office appointment will be required when our lobby has reopened so that you may provide the record check, any missing documentation, and review the results of the recertification.

Community Service

HUD has issued a waiver for Community Service. At this time those previously required to perform community service are not required to do so until their first annual recertification completed after April 1, 2020. Additionally we will not be reviewing community service status for anyone until the first annual recertification completed after April 1, 2020. This waiver expires April 1, 2021.

Annual Inspections Are Postponed for the Time Being.

Lastly, Clark Homes and Public Housing newsletter will be combined for the time being.

Wise Words from Officer BrownFlag PD Background Checks

Here is the current process for obtaining a Background Check from the Flagstaff Police Department:

First, complete the Background Check form:

- → This can be done online and submitted electronically at: www.flagstaff.az.gov/ FormCenter/Police-Department-Forms-4/ Background-Check-44 (Preferred Method)
- → Come to the police department, complete the form and return it to records.
- → Email the form to Flagstaff PD/Sheriff Records department at: <u>FlagstaffPD-</u> <u>SheriffRecords@coconino.az.gov</u>

Once the form has been received, Police Department staff will complete the Background Check. When completed, PD staff will contact you to set up an appointment to retrieve your completed Background Check. A valid form of identification will be needed in order to receive your personal background check. The person picking up the background must be the person we conducted the Background Check for. The Flagstaff Police Department will need to make a copy of your ID and the letter if needed for Housing.

This policy is subject to change as this is a fluid situation. For more information or if you have any questions, please contact the Flagstaff Police Department Records Department at (928) 214-2530.



Reminder: Disaster Preparedness

READY, SET, GO!

The threat of flooding from the Museum Fire burn scar and wildfire are both high. Fire Restrictions are currently enacted, as well. Expect emergency officials to use these keywords during fire and flood events:

- **1. Get Ready** Take personal responsibility and prepare your family before the threat is obvious. Assemble supplies for the emergency in a safe place. Plan escape routes and talk to your family.
- **2. Be Set** Pack necessities (clothing, toiletries, medicines) and check your emergency items. Know how to receive and stay aware of the latest news from local media, the fire department, and safety officials.
- **3. Go!** When needed, evacuate! Follow your personal action plan, adhere to local jurisdiction's evacuation processes.

Learn more at ein.az.gov/ready-set-go.

Learning Resource for Kids

Check out these learning resources for young minds:

- FUSD Digital Hub: Your go-to for Flagstaff Unified School District educational content waits for you at <u>fusd1.org/digitalhub</u>!
- Spring Literacy Challenge: The City-County Library is hosting an online literacy challenge for all readers: <u>fpl.azsummerreading.org</u>
- KAHN Academy and Scholastic: Standards-aligned lessons covering K-12 through early college. Kahn is FREE at khanacademy.org
- Scholastic's FREE Learn From Home site has content for PreK to Grade 6 and up. Workdays include stories, videos, and field trips: classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html
- NPR Art Projects: For art projects for the whole



family, check out npr.org/2020/04/10/830878128/5-easy-art-projects-to-enjoy-during-social-distancing. These are great for teenagers, but adults can join, too!

Food Resources

If you and your household are in need of food assistance, there are several resources to use:

Flagstaff Family Food Center Services:

Home Deliveries:

Call (928) 526-2211 to sign up for a delivery

Emergency Food Boxes

3805 E Huntington, Tues - Sat, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm No contact distribution, can receive twice per month

To-Go Style Dinner

1903 N 2nd St, Daily 4:00 - 5:30 pm Nutritious meal packed up to-go

Backdoor Lunch Program

1903 N 2nd St., Daily 10 am - 2 pm Ring the doorbell for a sack lunch

Flagstaff Unified School District

Free Grab & Go Meals

Available Mon - Fri, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm Visit <u>fusd.net/meals</u> for locations

The Salvation Army Food Pantry

507 N. Humphreys St., 9:00 am - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm, Mon - Thurs. Emergency food box, once per month. Application required along with ID.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (with DES)

If you receive SNAP/Food Stamps, you are eligible for emergency food and assistance at no cost; other households can also apply. For sign up locations and more details, see des.az.gov/services/basic-needs/food-assistance/emergency-food-assistance.

Meals on Wheels/Area Agency on Aging - NACOG

If someone in your household is 60 years of age or older, call (877) 521-3500 to arrange for assistance.

The Summer Café - Flagstaff

During June and July, households with those under 18 can text "FOOD" to 877-877 for a nearby pickup location. No enrollment necessary, meal recipients must be 18 years or younger.





Census 2020: I Count, You Count!

Don't forget to respond to the 2020 Census! Everyone counts in the US Census! Have your household code that was mailed to you ready and fill it out!

- → Respond online at <u>2020census.gov</u>
- → Respond by phone at <u>1-800-923-8282</u>
- → Respond by mail using the survey that will be sent to those who don't respond above.

→ If you do not respond, a surveyor will help you respond in person.

Why is the Census important? Seeking information in Spanish? Go to icount2020.info.



Recipes of the Month: Juneteenth!

Juneteenth on June 19th celebrates the emancipation of African-Americans from slavery in 1865. Check the sources at the bottom for more recipes!

Black-Eyed Pea Salad | Prep: 35m + overnight *Adapted by Chicago cooking teacher Kocoa Winbush*

Ingredients

1 clove garlic, minced | 1/4 cup rice vinegar 3 tbsp olive oil | 2 tbsp orange juice

3/4 tsp Dijon mustard | 1/4 tsp dry mustard

Salt & pepper to taste | 2 green onions, sliced

2 cans (15 oz) black-eyed peas, drained, rinsed

1 carrot, diced | 1 red bell pepper, diced

1 celery rib, diced | 1 small peeled jicama

1/2 bunch fresh cilantro, finely chopped

Directions

- 1. Stir together garlic, vinegar, oil, juice, mustards, salt and pepper in medium bowl.
- 2. Add peas, green onions, bell pepper, celery, jicama, carrot and cilantro; stir well.

3. Cover tightly with plastic wrap. Refrigerate

overnight; serve cold.

Sources: <u>bonappetit.com/</u>
<u>gallery/juneteenth-menu-</u>
<u>oriana-koren</u> and
<u>chicagotribune.com/news/</u>
<u>ct-xpm-1998-12-23-</u>
9812230253-story.html.



Kids' STEAM Corner:

Crystal Suncatchers

Celebrate the sunshine with some homemade crystals! If you really enjoy this one, you can also find guidance for salt crystal gardens.

Materials: Epsom salt, clear plastic lids (disposable is just fine), water, a glass jar, bowl or measuring cup,



fork, microwave (optional), tray, string, straight pin.

Instructions

- 1) **Measure:** You will use 1:1 ratio of water to salt. Add 1 cup of Epsom salt to an empty glass jar.
- 2) **Add Heat:** Add 1 cup of water to a microwave-safe bowl. Microwave the water for 45 seconds. Alternatively: Use very hot tap water.
- 3) **Combine:** Quickly pour water into the jar with salt. Stir the salt water for 1-2 minutes to dissolve the salt.
- 4) **Prepare:** Place several plastic lids on a flat-bottomed tray in a sunny, out of the way location.
- 5) **Pour** off some of the excess liquid from your jar into the plastic lids. Use just enough to cover the bottom of the lid. Don't overfill!
- 6) **Wait:** With your lids in sunny location, let rest for a few hours (more if you filled them). Be patient!
- 7) **Crystals:** When the liquid has completely evaporated your crystal suncatcher is ready! See lovely crystal structures from both side of the lid.
- 8) **Display:** <u>Very</u> carefully poke a small hole in the edge of the lid and thread a piece of string through the hole. Tie in a knot and hang your suncatcher up!

Tips: These are very fragile, so be careful! Adults should handle the display step. As the crystals dry, they'll turn white rather than clear.

Image and Experiment Source: <u>babbledabbledo.com/</u> <u>science-kids-crystal-suncatcher-craft/</u>



Your Story Could be Featured in Next Month's Newsletter!

If you have news of accomplishments, original artwork, poetry, community group news, recipes, or if you just want to see something specific on the next newsletter, we want to hear from you! Send Caleb your stories or suggestions and they may be featured in next month's newsletter!

Stop by the Siler Homes office, email caleb.alexander@flagstaffaz.gov, or call (928) 213-2738.

June 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Trash Pickup Clark Homes, Crestview, and Cedar Yard Watering: None	Trash Pickup All Sunnyside Scattered Sites Recycling Pickup Brannen and Verde Watering: Odd #s	Trash Pickup Siler, Brannen, Steves, Alta Vista, Lockett, and Verde Watering: Even #s	Recycling Pickup Clark Homes, Cedar, and Crestview Watering: Odd #s	Recycling Pickup Siler, Lockett, Alta Vista, Steves, and all Sunnyside Scattered Sites Watering: Even #s
June 1 Public Hsg Rent Due Bulky Trash Pickup: Scattered Sites, Siler, & Greenlaw	2 Clark Homes: Tuesday Crafts and Wednesday Coffee are cancelled in June	Change Reports and Statements available outside lobby doors	4	5
8 Public Housing Late Fees Applied 6/6 - Clark Homes Rent Late Fees	9 6/8 - Rent late fees are applied at 8am & late notices sent	10	11	12
Last day to turn in Public Housing Recert. Packets for September by 8am	16	17	18	JUNETEENTH Celebrate Freedom JUNE 19
Last day to pay rent to avoid court action Bulky Trash Pickup: Brannen Homes	23 Father's Day on Sunday, 6/21	24 Theis	Last day, by 8am, to report changes for August rent decrease	26
29 <u>Bulky Trash Pickup:</u> Clark Homes, Crestview, & Cedar	30 Clark Homes Recertifications Due	July 1 July Rent Due	July 2 July 3rd - All Offices Closed for Independence Day	Note: This calendar includes deadlines for Brannen Homes, Siler Homes, Clark Homes, and Scattered Sites.

July's Rent Dates

<u>Public Housing - Late fees applied</u>: By 8:00 am on Monday, July 9th

Public Housing - Last day to pay rent to avoid court action: By 8:00 am on Thursday, July 23rd